

NOTED FOLK OF LONG AGO

Interesting Life of Thomas Jefferson Page and Family in the "Eternal City."

HEROIC SERVICE IN THE WAR

Resigned Commission in United States Navy Against Protests With "Impoverish" in View.

In the death of Mrs. Thomas Jefferson Page and her daughter, the Marquise Spinola, in Rome, Italy, recently, the American colony loses two of its most prominent members.

Captain Jefferson Page was born at "Shelly" in Gloucester, Co. Va., and appointed by President John Quincy Adams a cadet to the West Point Military Academy in memory of the service of his forefathers to the country. There young Page became violently homesick and came home. Afterwards he was appointed to the Naval Academy and passed first in a class of forty. The Naval Academy was then a receiving ship. After the Civil War Capt. Page never lived in his native State or his native country.

The first years were spent in South America, and his last years in Rome.



Mrs. Thomas Jefferson Page.

He lived beyond the 90th milestone, and his wife, who died a few weeks ago, was his junior by a very few years. His sons were scattered—one in South America and one in the United States. His daughter married an Italian nobleman of very ancient lineage, the Marquis Spinola, and spent her married life in Florence, and her widowhood in Rome. She was a beautiful woman, clever and gentle, who welcomed all from her native country, and "io Lunge Libero" was a mecca for all Americans. There was dispensed a simple Virginia hospitality which was rare and attractive in the Eternal City, and the two old people received their friends in the evening assisted by their lovely daughter. In a cemetery in Florence lies

Violets! Violets!

HEADQUARTERS FOR
**CARNATIONS,
ROSES, &c.**

Largest Stock in City.

W. A. Hammond,

107 E. Broad St.

one of the young Pages. His epiphany tells the curious that he was a "Confederate Soldier." Strange indeed to read these words in an Italian grave-yard. The Marquise Spinola died childless.

WROTE AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

Previous to 1836 Captain Page corresponded regularly with a relative in Richmond. The letters contain a fragmentary autobiography from the time he, a homesick lad, left West Point, through his scientific investigations and naval life, to the date when blindness and feebleness prevented correspondence. Two of these letters are so characteristic and show so much of the personal touch upon a historic period that they are reproduced here:

Extracts from Captain Page's letters. My maternal grandfather, Thomas Nelson, was educated in England, but this did not blind him to the injustices of England's treatment of his colony. He became an ardent and sincere patriot, showing in personal service and pecuniary sacrifices his sincerity. He mortgaged his vast estates for the good of his country, and not a dollar has ever been paid by the United States government to Nelson's children or grandchildren.

The only acknowledgment of it ever received was the sending to my mother, his oldest daughter, during the administration of John Quincy Adams, of two appointments for West Point. She accepted only one, and I, her youngest son, was sent there. I had no father before me, but Virginia or away from my mother. Arrived at West Point I became fearfully homesick. I went to Col. Thayer, commandant and told him I must go home. "Go home," he exclaimed, "Why?" "Because if I stay I'll die."

The Colonel perhaps saw that my distress was genuine, so he spoke kindly and said: "If you go you must go at once. After your examination you cannot leave without permission of your guardians."

I thought I had money enough to take me home, so I started. When I reached New York I found a schooner bound for Richmond. The captain put me on at Jamestown after a nine days' passage. When I can forget my poor mother's consternation when I walked into her room. I was heartily ashamed. Perhaps it influenced my conduct for life, for I determined never again would I, by my conduct, cause my gentle good mother grief.

Soon after this, through the influence of one of the Tripolitan heroes, Commodore

Warrington a friend of my family, I received the appointment of midshipman in our navy.

AS HE SAW WAR.

In another letter he describes his experiences during the war.

"In 1861 while preparing the account of my explorations in South America, having just arrived in Washington, I was told that Virginia had seceded from the Union, and I immediately sought an interview with the Secretary of the Navy, and tendered my resignation.

The Secretary said: "You have not been called upon to draw your sword against Virginia." I replied: "I am unwilling to occupy a position in the navy in which I would be exempt from the orders to which every other officer should be amenable."

He then said: "Keep your commission, reflect well upon this step and come to see me to-morrow."

The next day I handed him my resignation and commissions, and they were accepted."

Before leaving the office of the chief clerk he said to me: "Do you resign? Do you expect promotion?"

"No," I replied, I look for impoverishment."

"Then," said he, "I have nothing more to say."

The next day, a minister plenipotentiary of a foreign power offered me the position of admiral in his navy, but I declined it and with my two sons left for Richmond, Va.

When I reached Richmond I called on Governor Letcher, who ordered me to report to General Lee. General Lee assigned me to duty in his office and later to Gloucester Point for the construction of defenses and the command of that important place.

For several months the enemy bombarded us with their long reaching guns. With the abandonment of Yorktown in the night, I sent off my regiment to Richmond, only retaining ten men to work a gun until next morning. Then as I prepared to follow at early daylight



Marquise Spinola.

I saw squads of the enemy on the fort-side picking their way as if afraid of treading on explosives, and as if not fully assured that Yorktown had been abandoned. I fired a shell which plunged and exploded a short distance in front of them, seemed for a while to check their forward move. After an interval of some minutes I repeated the fire. My object was to retard their movements so as to give more time for Generals Johnson and Magruder on their march up the Peninsula. I then with my corporals, guards and ten men took up the way to Richmond, stopping for an hour to see two sisters who were living at our old home on York River with a female servant or two. One of the ladies was the widow of a well-known and highly respected navy officer.

AGAIN IN RICHMOND. Arrived at Richmond I was ordered to the erection and command of defenses at Chaffin Bluff, James River, about a mile from Drewry's Bluff, which were more extensive than those at Gloucester Point, so another company was added to my regiment of Gloucester boys.

A few months later I was sent to England, at the command of one of the ironclads known as the Birkenhead rams then ready for sea. But the American minister was on the alert; at his urgent demand the British government acquiesced the rams until an investigation could be made; the result was that the Birkenhead rams yielded to the imperative demand of the U. S. minister by keeping the rams; for they had been assured by Mr. Adams that if those ironclads passed into the hands of the Confederates his government would consider it a casus belli. England put those rams in commission for her own navy, where they are still in service under the names of "Scorpion" and "Wyben."

The close of the war found me without home, country or career. The necessities of a large family obliged me to immediate action, and as a land of promise I turned my eyes to the United States, a good class of emigrants daily arriving, and fair promise for a prosperity and growth.

The ex-president of the republic, Mr. Quiza, offered me for a period of years a large estate, a square and well stocked with sheep; and a considerable sum of money with which to begin operations, the only consideration being that at the end of a term of years named I should repay him with half the net profits of Estancia with no interest.

My business as a landowner was prospering until I had an offer from a commercial company to re-examine the Vermelo River. I left Estancia affairs in charge of my sons, and accepted the offer made by the Vermelo Company.

Foreseeing the greatness and prosperity of the Argentine Republic, I proposed to the government to construct two ironclads and two sloops of war, adapted to the interior waters, and an electric and percussion torpedo system which had been effectively practiced in the civil war of the United States.

My plans were accepted, and I very naturally took great interest in this navy, as three of my grandsons, citizens of that country, are parts of its personnel: one, twenty-two, is navigating lieutenant; another, twenty-four, is ensign; another, twenty-five, is midshipman.

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After housecleaning don't put back all the old furniture in the same old places. That makes life monotonous. If you can't afford a lot of new furniture, get a little. It will be a great comfort and relief. But we're selling it so cheaply nowadays that we think you can afford to get a lot if you want to, and our

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<p>The largest and finest line of Go-Carts in the city to select from; prices the lowest.</p> <p>\$8.50 for Fine Rattan Go-Cart, full roll, latest gear; regular value, \$11.</p> <p>\$12.50 for a Handsome Go-Cart, fine parol, auto gear.</p>	<p>\$10.50 for Solid Oak Double Door Wardrobe, good value for \$15.</p> <p>\$22.50 for a Handsome Parol Bed Wardrobe, in golden oak; cost elsewhere \$28.</p>	<p>\$12.95 for Pretty Golden Oak Chest, round ends, nicely finished; regular price, \$18.</p> <p>\$22.50 for Large, Handsome Parol Bed Wardrobe, in golden oak; cost elsewhere \$28.</p>	<p>New Mattings.</p> <p>Complete line of newest importations in China and Jap Mattings. We are the lowest priced Matting house in the city. No cost for laying.</p> <p>A number of patterns of Fine Check Mattings..... 15c</p> <p>Very large assortment of Fine China Mattings, in heavy quality, in narrow weaves and broad checks..... 20c</p> <p>Fifty styles of Double and Extra Heavy Mattings, in new and original designs..... 22 1/2c</p> <p>Good quality, bright pattern, in Oil Cloth..... 25c</p> <p>85c for Full 51-in. Fringed Carpet Rug.</p> <p>\$14.50 for Carpet Size Brussels Rug.</p>
<p>\$38.50 for Extra Size Five-Piece Parol Suite, covered in extra quality of Verona. Its equal never sold for less than \$55.</p> <p>\$21.50 for Pretty Five-Piece Suite, heavy frame, covered in silk damask; worth \$30.</p>	<p>\$29.50 for a Full Swell Parol carved, large bevel plate mirror; regular value, \$35.</p> <p>\$14.95 for Solid Oak Suite, nicely carved and finished; cost elsewhere \$25.</p> <p>\$39.75 for Extra Large Parol Suite, handsome carvings, full roll-top dressing case and bedstead; regular \$50 value.</p>	<p>\$2.48 for a Substantial Extension Table, cost elsewhere \$3.</p> <p>\$6.75 for Excellent Heavy Leg Oak Extension Table, nicely finished, cost elsewhere \$8.</p> <p>\$21.95 for Very Handsome Quartered and Polished Oak, Heavy Parol Base Extension Table, cost elsewhere \$28.</p>	<p>\$14.50 for a Beautiful Folding Bed, chiffronier style, golden oak; regular value, \$25.</p> <p>\$42.50 for Handsome Highly Polished Mahogany Finished Bed, with roomy wardrobe; regular price, \$50.</p>

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A HEALTHY FAMILY

Is the one that can rightfully boast of pure blood. When the rich, red wine of life is coursing through the veins it imparts vigor and strength to the body and healthy action to all parts of the system. A healthy family is a wealthy family; it may be poor in worldly goods, but possessed of a priceless jewel that all the riches of earth cannot buy. A healthy family may not carry in their veins the blood of titled nobles or distinguished ancestors, but vigorous health is always an evidence of the best and purest blood, for the vital fluid contains all material necessary for the making of bone and muscle and the growth and development of the body, and upon its purity rests our chances for good health. When the body is fed upon weak, sickly blood the system languishes, growth is stunted, disease enters without hindrance, and the simplest maladies are apt to develop into serious sickness. In so many ways does the blood become contaminated that the fewest number succeed in keeping this life-giving, health-sustaining fluid in a pure and natural state. We inherit the disease-tainted blood of ancestors, parents transmit to their children such impoverished and weak blood that their lives are a continuous battle against disease, and from earliest infancy are harassed by sores and the most dreadful skin eruptions, and heirs to some old family disease. No one has a right to throw upon the shoulders of posterity a disease that might have been cured, or allow the blood to remain impure without an effort to restore it to health. Rheumatism, Catarrh, Scrofula and many of the severer forms of skin diseases are frequently inherited, and only the most thorough constitutional treatment can remove them. Bad blood is responsible for more ill health than all other causes combined; it absorbs the poisons that gather in the system, and the germs and microbes floating in the air find their way into the circulation, and old sores and ulcers, Eczema, Boils, Malaria and a long train of other diseases follow.

If you do not come of a strong and vigorous family and your blood shows evidence of impurity, nothing will so quickly bring it back to a healthy condition as S. S. S., the most widely known and popular blood remedy on the market. It purifies and builds up weak, sluggish blood and stimulates the circulation, and thus rids the system of impurities. S. S. S. contains tonic as well as blood purifying properties, and builds up the general health, improves the appetite and digestion, and tones up the nerves while ridding the blood of all poisons and humors. Nothing reaches old chronic blood troubles like S. S. S., and being a strictly vegetable remedy can be taken by old and young without any bad effects or injury to the system. As a blood purifier and tonic at this season S. S. S. has no superior. It puts the blood in good order, removes all poisonous accumulations, invigorates all parts of the system and prevents that debilitated, tired feeling common to this time of year. Keeping the blood healthy is the secret of all healthy families. Write us if in need of medical advice, which our physicians will furnish free of charge. Book on the blood and its diseases mailed free.

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feet, who had died some years before the war while attached to the Pacific Squadron.

All of the male population of Gloucester, white and colored, seemed to have followed the army, but so far the ladies had lived undisturbed by even the rumors of war, but as day after day Federal gunboats passed up the river and finding no enemy made a target of the old homestead, Lieutenant G. bravely sent his shells at the building, but from bad gunnery they did no other damage than to frighten the ladies and their maids who took refuge in the cellar. After the bombardment, a boat's crew was sent off to rob the poultry houses and carry off such live stock as they could dispose of. This act of gallantry is worthy of record.

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COCKE MEMORIAL FUND.

Mrs. Thomas P. Bagby Makes a Trip Through the South.

As president of the General Alumnae Association of Hollins Institute, I was sent through the South by the local chapter of Hollins Institute this winter in the interest of the Charles L. Cocke Memorial Fund. This fund is to be raised by the alumnae patrons and friends for the building of a library, reading-rooms and auditorium. When Dr. Cocke died, this building was next in his plans in the way of improving the place, and these plans will be carried out by the management at an early date, even if the memorial does not materialize.

Hollins Institute has nothing to do with so much for the education of the women of the South that a memorial building, erected by them, seemed most fitting. Last winter I traveled in the interest of the work in Virginia for one month, closing the work with an organization of a Richmond Chapter at the executive mansion, Mrs. A. J. Montague, as president; Miss Mary Sue Dew, recording secretary; Mrs. A. B. DeGuzon, corresponding secretary; Miss Cora Duke, treasurer. This winter the work began at Rocky Mount, N. C., stopping at cities and towns as far as New Orleans, and returning via Birmingham, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Bristol, back to Hollins. I was received and entertained all along the line by alumnae of Hollins in a most royal manner. They were not only responsive, but enthusiastic, and the keynote was determination to erect the memorial in honor of the founder, old main Dr. Charles L. Cocke, a builder, guide of Hollins Institute. Chapters were organized and delightful reunions in the form of luncheons, receptions and teas. These chapters are already at work giving musical,

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Pride of Richmond Flour, \$3.75 barrel, or sack..... 30c.	Best Salt Pork, pound..... 10c.
Daisy Flour, \$3.25 barrel, or sack..... 33c.	Good Pork, pound..... 7c.
Large cans Table Peaches, each..... 12c.	Genuine New Orleans Molasses, gallon..... 60c.
Large cans Tomatoes, each..... 7c.	Best Prunes, 5 pounds for..... 25c.
New Cut Herring, 3 dozen for..... 25c.	Force, package..... 13c.
New Roe Herring, dozen..... 18c.	Malta Vita, package..... 11c.
New Lake Herring, or White Fish, pound..... 5c.	Quaker Oats, package..... 10c.
Best Cream Cheese, pound..... 15c.	Mother's Oats, package..... 9c.
Blind Butter, pound..... 25c.	American Oats, package..... 8c.
Arbuckle's Coffee, pound..... 12c.	Old Crown Rye, gallon..... \$2.50
Nedlung New Mackerel, each..... 5c.	Old Keystone Rye, gallon..... \$2.50
Large New Mackerel, 3 for..... 25c.	Old Excelsior Rye, gallon..... \$2.50
Best Meal, 70c. bushel, or peck..... 18c.	Old Capital Rye, gallon..... \$1.50
Best Butcher's Lard, pound..... 11c.	Wilson Whiskey, bottle..... \$1.00
Silver Leaf Lard, in bulk, 19c. pound, or in tin..... 11c.	Duffy's Malt Whiskey, bottle..... 80c.
Good Lard, 10c. pound, or 3 pounds for..... 25c.	Fletcher Whiskey, bottle..... \$1.00
	Buchu Gin, for medicinal purposes, bottle..... 90c.
	N. C. Corn Whiskey, gallon..... \$2.00
	Gold Cup Whiskey, bottle..... 75c.

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dramatic entertainments and silver teas. Everywhere I went it was quite an inspiration to all to know that Mrs. A. J. Montague, the first lady in our State, was at the head of the chapter in our capital city. In far away New Orleans there were thirty-four "young girls," Mobile twenty-two, etc., etc. The trip was a great success, not only socially, but financially. It was my pleasure and privilege to be entertained in many schools, and to learn from them a great deal. Among these schools are Baptist Female University at Raleigh, Presbyter-

Plan College and Lutheran College at Charlotte, N. C.; Agnes Scott, Decatur, Ga.; Lucy Cobb at Athens, Ga.; Sophie Newcomb at New Orleans, La.; the Hollins graduates are engaged in school work throughout the South. It is our aim to lay the corner-stone of the memorial building June, 1905. This, of course, depends on whether or not all of the money is in hand.

MRS. THOMAS P. BAGBY,
President of the Alumnae Association of Hollins Institute, West Point, Va.